

MR3287-12

Serial No. 10/773,399

Response to Office Action dated 4 August 2004

REMARKS

The specification is amended and corrected in accordance with the Examiner's instructions and it is believed that the objections should be removed.

The title of the present invention is now amended to be "SCREW WITH CUTTING EDGES".

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Williams and Meersteiner '336. Both Williams and Meersteiner '336 disclose a screw with a head and a shank, and the threads on the shank include slots and the slots are beveled. Nevertheless, it is noted that the slots in both of Williams and Meersteiner '336 are arranged to be spiral relative to the longitudinal axis of the shank. On the contrary, as disclosed in the claimed screw, the slots are arranged along the longitudinal axis of the shank and can be clearly seen from Fig. 4 of the present application. This is totally different from those slots disclosed by both Williams and Meersteiner '336.

Besides, the so called cutting edges on the remaining thread sections in the disclosure by Meersteiner form a triangular surface which perpendicularly extends from the shank; this fact can also be seen from Fig. 3 of Meersteiner. When threading into an object, the triangular surfaces of Meersteiner lack efficient cutting edges to cut the object as the cutting edges 536 disclosed in the claimed screw. The triangular surfaces would impede cutting into the objects when

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threading the screw of Meersteiner into objects.

Williams discloses a similar structure with the screw of Meersteiner, wherein the slots, as shown in Fig. 3, are arranged to be inclined relative to the longitudinal axis of the shank.

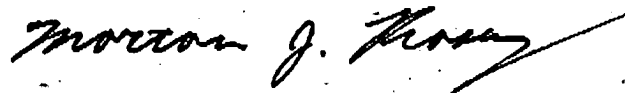
Obviously, Williams and Meersteiner both disclose a screw that has spiral and inclined slots along the longitudinal axis of the shank, and the slot arrangements in the claimed screw are axial. The disclosures by Williams and Meersteiner cannot anticipate the claimed application due to this significant difference. Therefore, the amended claim 1 makes the claimed invention more distinguishably patentable over the prior art cited by the Examiner. It is believed that the amended claim 1 has disclosed a structure whose construction and function are quite different from and patentably distinguishable over the cited prior arts. Therefore, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) should be removed, and the amended claim 1 should be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

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It is respectfully noted that this Amendment and Response was prepared by the Applicant and it has merely been corrected for form and is being filed by the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
For: ROSENBERG, KLEIN & LEE



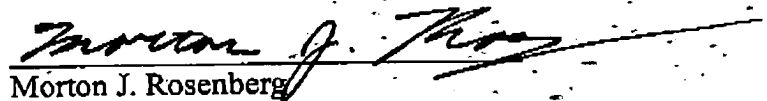
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